

VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE  
Lexington, Virginia 24450  
VMI Board of Visitors Cadet/Military Affairs Committee  
Meeting Minutes—12 September 2023  
1045 hours, Preston Library Room 701

1. The scheduled meeting of the VMI BOV Cadet/Military Affairs Committee was called to order at 1045 hours on 12 September 2023 in the Turman Room by Mr. Scot Marsh '81.
2. Attendees:
  - a. Mr. Scot Marsh '81, BOV Member/Chairman
  - b. C. Ernest Edgar IV '87
  - c. Lt. Col. (Ret.) James G Joustra '76
  - d. Meaghan C. Mobbs
  - e. Maj. Gen James Ring '88
  - f. Col. Adrian T. Bogart III '81
  - g. Col. Gary Bissell
  - h. Col. Scott Brannon
  - i. Col. Travis Homiak '94
  - j. Col. Nichole K. Scott
  - k. Steve Wilson, Alumni Agency Rep
  - l. Steve Johnson, Alumni Agency Rep
3. Mr. Marsh provided introductory remarks and welcomed all in attendance. The minutes for the 28 April 2023 Cadet/Military Affairs Committee meeting were approved. Mr. Marsh made remarks in the remembrance and honor of LTG Dominy. Introductions were made around the room.
4. LTC Dennis, and Colonels Homiak and Scott briefed the committee on branch-specific information:
  - a. AROTC commissioned 137 total in the class of 2023. 34 national guard, 126 projected for the class of 2024. This number changes frequently with cadets having the ability to decide their commissioning status into their first-class year. Questions about Army scholarship standardized testing requirement. The Army does still require SAT/ACTs even though the school has changed the policy on SAT/ACT requirement. AROTC can also provide cadet file and recommendation if a non-commissioning graduate decides to graduate. There are 1040 cadets in the unit with 300 contracted and 351 awarded scholarships. 582 seeking commissions, and 694 non-commissioning. 115 cadets completed advance camp. Some cadets also attended Air Born school, Air Assault school, and Army Dive School. 21 Cadets attended CTLT. Ranger Challenge competed and ranked 5<sup>th</sup> at Sandhurst last year. AROTC issues with change over having 9 staff depart and 9 new staff members learning the VMI way of life.
  - b. NROTC commissioned 34 midshipmen, VMI cadets and 3 VWIL Cadets in the class of 2023. The NROTC department handles scholarship Navy and Marine Corps midshipmen, Marine Corps option in the Platoon Leader Course based out of the Officer Selection Office in Roanoke, VA, and Coast Guard seeking cadets are recommended to stay in the

NROTC. detachment. 98% of midshipmen are VMI, 1 male navy scholarship cadet from VWIL. NROTC requires SAT/ACT for both Navy and Marine scholarships. NROTC is waiting for VMI's cyber program get NSA accreditation. 300 total midshipmen with 28 incoming 4<sup>th</sup> class midshipmen this year. All scholarships and national level competitions. VMI fell short on Nuke contracted Midshipmen. One 4th class cadet was the NSI Honor Graduate. NROTC moves cadets to AROTC after sophomore year if they are not seeking an NROTC commission. The Call to Duty scholarship is helping draw in 4-year scholarships midshipmen. There is now a Calculus refresh course to help reach the quota for midshipmen seeking the nuclear option. The parking on route 11 is still an issue.

- c. AFROTC commissioned 21 in the class of 2023. 18 Air force 3 space force, and there 13 Air Force commissioning and will be no space force commissioning with the class of 2024. AFROTC has 191 cadets in the detachment. 1 graduated as a distinguished graduate from field training. There are less 4-year scholarships given out, but that does not bar them from commissioning. AFROTC requires an SAT/ACT score for 4-year scholarships but focuses on current grades for 2- and 3-year contracts. Those cadets who are AFROTC but not seeking an Air force commission they are moved to AROTC. Chief of Space Operations will be coming to talk to cadets in October. The Call to Duty Scholarship has helped to draw 4-year national scholarship cadets to VMI.
5. Col. Bogart briefed the Committee on the Corps strength and Cadet training
    - a. There are currently 1558 cadets at VMI ranging from class of 2022 to 2027
      - i. There are more non-military government entities looking to pick up graduates as employees.
    - b. Accomplishments
      - i. The rank decisions have been based on talent management; bringing forward the right leadership team.
      - ii. The "Rainbow" books, specifically the Blue Book, have been compiled and completed with fine tuning.
      - iii. Development of Standard Operating Procedures to reduce friction points within the Commandants Staff and within the Corps of Cadets
      - iv. "Militarization" of the Athletic department has helped to decrease the perceived gap between NCAA and Non-NCAA members of the Corps.
    - c. Corps Wellness
      - i. Attrition has decreased this year compared to past. No real connection between cadre and attrition.
      - ii. Wellness checks given nightly during Hell Week. They assisted the CEA, OGA, and the New Cadet Retentions Center on getting ahead of perceived issues.
  6. The meeting was Adjourned at 12:26